



Webmaster's Monthly

NEW SITE THEMES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!!!

Web Site Changes

The Grand Aerie Web site launched more than a year ago with more information posted online for members and nonmembers than ever made available before. The site has been a continuing work in progress with changes made as recommendations were given. The site was built to serve our members and give the public a better idea of who are the Eagles.

The latest round of Web site updates were made the last week in September and include moving several 'most viewed' items out of Eagle Space and onto the main site. The average click number (number of clicks it takes to get to information from the homepage) for any web site is three and we've made an effort to have majority of our information, and all the most requested information one or two clicks deep. This was done with the goal to serve our members better.



Two of the biggest changes you'll note on the Web site is Events is now Programs & Events and includes all the Grand Aerie programs. This page has internal and external information on each program we offer. Within this section is a new home for the Eagle Rider's information. The Eagle Rider page now has updates from local clubs, resources from the Grand Aerie for current and future clubs as well as a listing of all the local clubs and the states in which the patch is approved. This page will continue to grow as this program does and offer more information for our riders.

The other biggest change is eNews is now just News and includes Eagle Magazine, and a People Helping People section with updates on some local donations. In January 2009 we'll launch an email newsletter that members can opt into from this page of the Web site. The information in the email newsletter will include the articles posted in the News section, as well as the President's Messages, People Helping People updates and Announcements.

Web Server Change



On February 27, 2009 the Grand Aerie contract with CI Host, the webhost for the old Web site and many of the local Web pages built with FrontPage will be terminated. Due to increasing number of technical issues, the lack of support for FrontPage extensions provided by Microsoft and the new server and site building tools, it was determined that the server contract would not be renewed.

The Grand Aerie is working to support any Webmaster interested in converting their site to the new tools with training sessions, guidebooks and more. We highly encourage Webmasters hosting sites on the old server begin making the transition to a new Web site because after February 27, the old sites will no longer be available.

Tip of the Month:

Band lists and menu specials are a very popular item to place on your event calendar. The biggest complaint is the amount of time it takes to create each event individually.

Here is an idea to save time. Instead of making an individual event for each band. List all the bands and dates in a single event. Then assign the event to each of the dates.

When your visitor clicks the date they are taken to the band list and you only had to create it once for the whole month.

Site of the Month...

<http://218.foe.com>
Chico #218

Updates:

- Pumpkin and Autumn themes added.
- Calendar popup fixed
- Eagle Riders category added

Training Dates:

December 13, 2008:
Indiana Zone 3 Christmas Frolic
9:00 AM

If you would like to host a training session in your area, please contact dstacey@foe.com.